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Soviet Defector to Leave Tokyo

TOKYO, Oct. 8 (AP) — A Soviet scientist who asked the United States Embassy in Tokyo for asylum has been granted permission to leave shortly for the United States, the Kyodo News Service reported today.

United States officials could not immediately be reached for comment.

Kyodo, quoting Foreign Ministry sources, identified the scientist as Yevgeny Novikov, 52 years old, a physicist and member of the Soviet Academy of Sciences. It said he sought academic freedom.

Japanese press reports said Mr. Novikov came to Japan on Sept. 4 to attend the International Union of Theoretical and Applied Mechanics Symposium in Kyoto, in western Japan, Sept. 5 through 10.